

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Pursuant to 37 CFR § 121(c), the claim listing, including the text of the claims, will serve to replace all prior versions of the claims in the application.

No claim is amended.

Claims 1-6. (Cancelled)

1 7. (Previously Presented) A helical implant, comprising a core surrounded by helical threads,
2 with the inclined flanks of said threads bearing a continuum of micro-patterns increasing exposed
3 surface area of said helical thread, the micro-patterns comprising one or more recesses and
4 protrusions, and the micro-patterns having continuous and repeated arcuate cross-sectional outlines
5 throughout the entire length of the micro-patterns, two adjacent said recesses being separated by a
6 distance on an order of 150 μm .

Claims 8-12. (Cancelled)

1 13. (Previously Presented) A helical implant, comprising a core surrounded by helical
2 threads bearing inclined flanks disformed with a continuum of micro-patterns increasing exposed
3 surface area of said implant by extending along said flanks and around said core, with the
4 micro-patterns comprising one or more recesses and protrusions, and the recesses and protrusions
5 having substantially identical arcuate cross-sectional outlines throughout the entire length of the

6 micro-patterns, two adjacent said recesses being separated by a distance on an order of 150 μm .

Claims 14-18. (Cancelled)

1 19. (Previously Presented) A helical implant, comprising:
2 a cylindrical core;
3 a screw thread surrounding the cylindrical core, with the screw thread comprising crests,
4 roots and flanks connecting the crests and the bottoms of the screw thread, and the flanks comprising
5 inclined planes surrounding the cylindrical core; and
6 at least one micro-pattern formed on the flanks of the screw thread, and extending helically
7 in a circumferential direction around the cylindrical core, with said micro-pattern comprising at least
8 one groove and at least one ridge having identical arcuate outlines and opened at one side when
9 viewed on any cross sectional plane of the screw thread, and said cross sectional plane containing
10 the longitudinal axis of the cylindrical core, the distance between the neighboring micro-patterns
11 being approximately 150 μm .

Claims 20-24. (Cancelled)